AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7. **(Withdrawn)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

a) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H_2O with a histidinol-phosphatase;

b) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H_2O with histidinol-phosphatase and ~~a~~ **said** test compound; ~~and~~

c) determining the change in concentration **between steps (a) and (b)** for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H_2O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate~~;~~; **and**

d) identifying whether said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic,

wherein a change in concentration **between steps (a) and (b)** for any of the above substances indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

9. **(Original)** The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a fungal histidinol-phosphatase.

10. **(Original)** The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a *Magnaporthe* histidinol-phosphatase.

11. **(Original)** The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is SEQ ID NO: 3.

12. **(Original)** A method for determining whether the antibiotic candidate of claim 8 has antifungal activity, further comprising:

contacting a fungus or fungal cells with said antibiotic candidate and detecting a decrease in growth, viability, or pathogenicity of said fungus or fungal cells.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

a) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a histidinol-phosphatase;

b) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a histidinol-phosphatase and ~~a~~ **said** test compound; and

c) determining the change in concentration **between steps (a) and (b)** for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H_2O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate,

wherein a change in concentration **between steps (a) and (b)** for any of the above substances indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

14. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a fungal histidinol-phosphatase.

15. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a *Magnaporthe* histidinol-phosphatase.

16. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is SEQ ID NO: 3.

17. **(Original)** A method for determining whether the antibiotic candidate of claim 13 has antifungal activity, further comprising:

contacting a fungus or fungal cells with said antibiotic candidate and detecting a decrease in growth, viability, or pathogenicity of said fungus or fungal cells.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

a) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H_2O with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with histidinol-phosphatase; a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase and having at least 10% of the activity thereof; and a polypeptide comprising at least 100 consecutive amino acids of a histidinol-phosphatase;

b) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H_2O with said polypeptide and ~~a~~ **said** test compound; ~~and~~

c) determining the change in concentration **between steps (a) and (b)** for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H_2O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate~~,~~; **and**

d) identifying whether said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic,

wherein a change in concentration for any of the above substances between steps (a) and (b) indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

a) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase; a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase and at least 10% of the activity thereof; and a polypeptide comprising at least 100 consecutive amino acids of a histidinol-phosphatase;

b) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate, with said polypeptide and ~~a~~ **said** test compound; and

c) determining the change in concentration for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H_2O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate,

wherein a change in concentration for any of the above substances between steps (a) and (b) indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

20-49. **(Withdrawn)**